



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

January 2019 CWI Newsletter <https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Invitation to Tuesday, January 22, 2019 CWI Meeting

Noon-1:30 PM at the Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle, 5th Floor; entrance on New Hampshire Ave., NW. (Nearest Metro Stop: Dupont Circle, north or south exit)

RSVP for Program is now needed. See <https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Honoring the Wonderful Feminist Life and Contributions of Dr. Bernice "Bunny" Sandler, Godmother of Title IX

We decided to change the focus of our Jan. 22 meeting from "Using Social Media Safely, Quickly, and Effectively to Empower Our Feminist Organizations" to sharing our stories and thanks for the accomplishments of our friend and Title IX Trail Blazer, Dr. Bunny Sandler, who died on Jan. 5, 2019.

Dr. Bunny Sandler, is a former CWI Board Member, meeting presenter, and long-time friend of many DC area feminists and educators especially CWI Co-Presidents Harriett Stonehill and Sue Klein. Harriett went to summer camp with Bunny over 75 years ago and Bunny helped Sue with her pilot dissertation research before Bunny worked with Congresswomen Edith Green and Patsy Mink to develop Title IX. (See page 2 for more information and links to news articles and videos.)

This celebration of Dr. Sandler's life will provide an opportunity for many of Bunny's friends and admirers to share their stories and insights on Bunny's contributions. It will also help us learn how we can continue to work together to defend the full implementation of Title IX especially now that the 1975 Title IX Regulations are being threatened by proposed changes from the Trump administration.

After this meeting we plan to share tapes and materials with Bunny's daughters, grandchildren, and archives and to add to her website. Bunny's daughters are also planning to organize a DC area memorial gathering this summer. We will also show some videos of Bunny such as her 2013 presentation when she was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame.

In addition to Harriett and Sue, the following friends and colleagues of Bunny have already confirmed they will come and share: Marty Langelan, Marcia Greenberger, Ellie Smeal, Jeanette Lim Esbrook, Edie Fraser, Francelia Gleades McKindra, Caryn McTighe Musil and Amanda Berard. Harriett already has a list of 10 things you may not know about Bunny. As time permits any attendee will be able to share stories and accolades. We hope many who speak about Bunny will want to be videotaped and photographed so their remembrances can be shared with Bunny's family and posted on Bunny's, CWI's and other websites. Marty is writing about Bunny for the Spring *Ms. Magazine* and working with Amanda and the family on Bunny's website so bring your contributions to share on Jan. 22 and beyond.

CWI meetings are free and open to the public. We will bring some light lunch refreshments. An RSVP to attend this meeting is required. Go to <https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Next CWI Meeting, Noon Tue. Feb. 26, 2019 "The 2020 U.S. Census, Gerrymandering, & Voter Suppression"

Dear CWI Members,

We wish you all a wonderful 2019. There is much to celebrate as we start the new year. [Nancy Pelosi](#)¹ retook the leadership of the House, and there are now 127 women members in 116th Congress. These new members reflect the greatest diversity ever established in the US Congress. After passing previously approved bills to end the government shutdown, the House passed HR 1 a large bill addressing automatic voter registration, campaign financing, voting rights, election cybersecurity and more.

We are happy that [Dr. Bernice, "Bunny" Sandler](#) lived to learn about these accomplishments, but **so sad she died on January 5, 2019 at 90**. Many CWI members were longtime friends and colleagues of Bunny, our esteemed CWI member and past Board Member. The New York Times called her "Godmother of Title IX" for her extensive work in the development, passage, and implementation of Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments. Her work provided the data and impetus for Title IX which prohibits sex discrimination in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. She also discovered and shared information about an earlier executive order prohibiting sex discrimination in federal contracts and provided years of leadership in all aspects of Title IX. Bunny delivered over 2,500 presentations. She received 15 honorary doctorates, numerous other awards, and was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame. (See CWI VP for Technology Loretto Gubernatis's video of Bunny at the Induction Ceremony and Title IX Anniversary with former CWI Board member Kate Campbell Stevenson <https://youtu.be/5EBtntgX8PU>.) Also visit www.bernicesandler.com.



[Bunny Sandler](#) coauthored with Harriett Stonehill (CWI CoPresident) *Student-to-Student Sexual Harassment K-12: Strategies and Solutions for Educators to Use in the Classroom, School, and Community*. This book has remained an essential work nationally in addressing these ongoing issues. Bunny and Harriett have remained close friends since they met as counselor and camper at a NY summer camp. Bunny was also a long-time friend and colleague of Sue Klein (CWI CoPresident). Sue conducted her Pilot Dissertation research on "Student Influence on Teacher Behavior" in Dr. Sandler's Mount Vernon college classroom (Bunny arranged a substitute teacher). Sue consulted Bunny for many years on gender equity and dedicated her 2016 Feminist Majority Foundation report *Reinvigorating the Role of the Title IX Coordinator: A Requirement and Resource*

<http://www.feminist.org/education/pdfs/Title-IX-Coordinator-Full-9-13-16.pdf> to Bunny. Bunny had the foresight to ensure that the 1975 Title IX Regulations include an important requirement there would be Title IX Coordinators in all institutions receiving federal funds--from state education agencies to individual public K-12 schools and colleges.

We shall all miss Bunny very much. Her daughters are planning a summer memorial in DC. (August 24, 2018 photo-Sue, Bunny, Harriett.)

Bunny would agree, women's voices must be heard loudly and often. The 3rd DC Women's March, to be held January 19, 2019 will highlight a federal policy platform called the "Women's Agenda". The Agenda will present 10 issues that are achievable such as raising federal minimum wage, addressing reproductive rights, passing the Equal Rights Amendment. Marchers are becoming vital participants in an increasingly active progressive movement. To register and learn details on the **January 19, 2019 Women's March on Washington starting at 10AM on the Mall**, see <https://www.womensmarch.com/2019/>. To vote for a donation to the March from CREDO go to: <https://www.credodonations.com/blog>.

Let us, members of CWI, begin this year, 2019, with hope and ambition to have the issues we truly care about and are necessary for future generations be addressed and legislated.

Sincerely, Harriett Stonehill, CoPresident CWI and Sue Klein, CoPresident CWI

¹ See Top of the Morning Special Tribute to Nancy Pelosi by Loretto Gubernatis <https://youtu.be/IdVQoptCYFEM>

CWI Meeting Summary, November 27, 2018 Post-Election Results and the Impact on Women's Issues

The meeting was moderated by Jeanette Lim Esbrook, CWI Vice President Legal Affairs. The presenters were Catherine Beane, Vice President of Public Policy and Advocacy at YWCA USA; Jan Erickson, Director of Government Relations, the National Organization for Women (NOW); and Leila Abolfazli, Director of Federal Reproductive Rights, National Women's Law Center (NWLC). The presenters outlined a long list of exciting opportunities to build on past progress and priorities of women and families. Videos of this meeting by Loretto Gubernatis, CWI's Vice President for Media Relations are available Part 1, Catherine Beane <https://youtu.be/DGoZrE-3w8k>, Part 2, Jan Erickson 25 Minutes https://youtu.be/I_8FKRnFaZQ.

The first presenter, **Catherine Beane** leads [YWCA](#) efforts to impact legislation and policy related to racial justice and civil rights, women's empowerment, economic advancement, and women's health and safety. Before joining YWCA, she addressed gender equity, school discipline, and student achievement issues for the National Education Association and served as the policy director for the Children's Defense Fund. She began her career as a trial attorney representing indigent youth and adults in juvenile and criminal proceedings. She earned her B.A. from Emory University, and her J.D. from Catholic University of America.



Catherine Beane presented the results of a YWCA commissioned telephone survey "[What Women Want 2018](#)" of 1,038 Independent, Republican and Democratic women across America to identify which issues and legislation are most important to them. The survey was analyzed by race, age, education level, marital status, and several other demographics. Among the multiple issues in the survey, the women were united in their views across party lines. Results showed 79% strongly supported equal pay laws for women and 75% strongly agreed with the renewal of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Women across party lines also were united in their support for ending family separation and detention at the border. There was a 9% increase in women reporting discrimination with half of all millennial women reporting that they have experienced gender discrimination. Furthermore, all women including all subgroups of women: millennial, White, Black, Latina, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Native American said that their number one concern was gun violence.

Catherine stressed the unity in beliefs among Democratic, Republican and Independent women on many issues including immigration and economic concerns. The YWCA will use this survey when deciding on which pieces of legislation to focus on in 2019 and to decide which issues are most important to women and thus, should be debated in Congress.

Jan Erickson (on left in photo) is Director of Government Relations for [NOW](#). She also serves as Director of Programs for NOW Foundation. She is the primary staff member responsible for the organization's work on reproductive rights, educational equity, economic equity, retirement security, violence against women and women's health issues, among others. Jan has also been a professional staff member in the U.S. Senate, in a governor's office and with a state legislature. While working in the Alaska State Legislature she was instrumental in securing state ratification in 1972 of the federal Equal Rights Amendment and adoption of a state Equal Rights Amendment. In addition, she organized a statewide coalition in 1970-71 to successfully repeal the state's restrictive abortion laws. Jan Erickson has also staffed, managed, and consulted in more than 30 local and state election campaigns. She taught journalism at the high school level and worked for three newspapers and wrote a column on women's rights. She graduated from the University of Alaska-Anchorage, served as Alaska State President for NOW in the mid-1980s and co-chaired the State NOW PAC.

Jan summarized the political wins of women in the 2018 midterm election and the legislative focusses of NOW for the next congressional term. Among those wins were 42 women of color including two Muslim women and 36 new women in the house. This lifted the total number of women in the House to 122 which is the record and up from the previous record of 85 women which was set two years ago in 2016. Of the women that NOW endorsed, 132 of them won in the midterm election including nine female governors and many new women in Congress. Jan said NOW is creating a list of the harmful policies that Republicans have enacted in the last 8 years and is sending in complaints against the proposed Title IX regulations that weaken protections against sexual harassment and assault. Jan then discussed many of NOW's 2019 legislative priorities. Protecting Special Counsel Robert Mueller, raising the federal minimum wage, immigration reform, strengthening Obamacare were likely Democratic priorities. NOW's priorities include passage of the Women's Health Protection Act, Healthy Families Act, the Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in Insurance Coverage Act (EACH Woman Act), the Equality Act, The Paycheck Fairness Act, Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act, the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, the Gender Equity in Education Act and the joint resolution to repeal the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Act. With a democratic majority in the House NOW is hoping to have factual hearings and help pass progressive legislation especially related to helping women and families. Remaining optimistic, NOW also hopes to be able to get the Senate to discuss and also pass much of this legislation. Overall NOW is viewing the 2018 midterms as a success for women's representation in the federal and many state governments.



Leila Abolfazli (on right in photo) is Director of Federal Reproductive Rights at the [National Women's Law Center \(NWLC\)](#). She works on a range of issues involving the protection and expansion of reproductive rights. Leila returned to NWLC in late 2018 after a two-year clinical teaching fellowship at Georgetown University Law Center. Before first joining NWLC in 2011, Leila Abolfazli was a Senior Associate at WilmerHale in Washington, D.C. She is a graduate of Emory University and Georgetown University Law Center.

Leila discussed the work that she does at the National Women's Law Center and the issues that she is focusing on in terms of a legislative agenda. She started this by saying, "we could live in a different world, these are not radical issues," and this is how she framed the rest of her discussion. Leila discussed extensively the connection between antiabortion views and racism and how women of color and low-income women have always been disproportionately targeted by antiabortion policies. She went on to state how for many of these women the Roe v. Wade decision to allow abortions no longer exists as their choice because they do not have the financial ability to access an abortion. This is why the courts are such a large focus for NWLC. NWLC is opposing judicial and other nominees who are hostile to women and their rights. There will also be a chance for the House to hold

real hearings on these issues in 2019 where experts on the subject are given enough time and the facts are what is important to the committee. Furthermore, the NWLC will be working on getting bills like the Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in Insurance Act (EACH Woman Act) and the Women's Health Protection Act passed through Congress. Leila ended by saying, "this is our lives," these issues are not distractions or separate from any other problem in America and instead abortion access is central to women being able to live their lives.

The CWI Board of Directors selected these potential Tuesday, Noon CWI meeting topics for 2019:

February 26, 2019. The 2020 U.S.Census, Gerrymandering, & Voter Suppression. Organizers: Jeanette Lim Esbrook and Megan Corrado.

March 26, 2019. Potential Collaboration between the National Women's History Museum and the Smithsonian's American Women's History Initiative. Organizers: Sue Klein and Holly Joseph

April 23, 2019. Financial Literacy Organizers: Connie Cordovilla and Anne Martin

May 21, 2019. A Feminist Approach to U.S. Foreign Policy. Organizer: Megan Corrado

June 18, 2019. Collaboration Among Women's Organizations. Organizers: TBD.

Important Vacancy Notice

The CWI Board is looking for a member to join the Board and serve as **CWI Secretary**. Join a dynamic team that plans and coordinates CWI programs and coordinates with other feminist and social justice organizations. Don't delay, contact any of our Board members listed below.

Coming DC Area and National Feminist Events and Resources

We will send selected events to CWI members on our e-mailing list. Please send your upcoming feminist events to post in CWI newsletters to president@womensclearinghouse.org. Check out CWI's Facebook www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse and Twitter www.twitter.com/CWINews pages! LIKE and FOLLOW us, as well as SUBSCRIBE and LIKE our video sponsor & provider <https://www.youtube.com/user/Hanburycross>. Times are EST. A benefit of CWI membership is receiving timely forwarded email messages on Feminist meetings

January 19, 2019 Women's March on Washington 10AM. See <https://www.womensmarch.com/2019/> and page 2.

January 22, 2019 Noon to 1:30. Honoring the Wonderful Feminist Life and Contributions of Dr. Bernice Sandler, Godmother of Title IX, Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (See pages 1 & 2 of newsletter.)

February 26, 2019 Noon to 1:30. The 2020 U.S.Census, Gerrymandering, and Voter Suppression will include presentations on the status of collecting citizenship information in the 2020 Census and court and legislative actions on gerrymandering and voter suppression, Clearinghouse on Women's Issues. (See page 1) CWI's newsletter is endowed by friends in loving memory of our longtime editor Roslyn Kaiser.

Meeting summary the Presenters & Sarah Timmerman, FMF Intern. Newsletter edited by Sue Klein

CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2018 – JUNE 2020

OFFICERS: Co-Presidents, Sue Klein and Harriett Stonehill; VP Membership, Linda Fihelly; Treasurer, Holly Taggart Joseph; VP Media, Loretto Gubernatis; VP Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook; VP Technology, Sherry Klein; VP Global Issues, Megan Corrado; VP Strategic Planning, Connie Cordovilla; and VP Organizational Management, Anne Martin.

DIRECTOR EMERITA: Elaine Newman, **EX OFFICIO:** Barbara J. Ratner

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Clearinghouse on Women's Issues Membership Form

womensclearinghouse.org

Bring a check, payable to CWI, along with this form to a CWI Meeting or mail to:

Holly Taggart Joseph, CWI Treasurer
8504 Rosewood Drive, Bethesda MD 20814-1434
joseph.holly@gmail.com

Or you may also join online using PayPal by going to the membership section of
womensclearinghouse.org

For membership questions: Contact VP Membership, Linda Fihelly, lfihelly@hotmail.com or 301-599-1942

NAME of Individual or Organization* _____
For Organizations also Provide Name and emails of two PRIMARY REPRESENTATIVES
NAME/Title _____
NAME (Org. Representative 2) _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ CELL _____
EMAIL (Org. representative 1) _____
EMAIL (Org. representative 2) _____
WEBSITE ADDRESS: (URL)* _____

Enclosed is a check for CWI membership. Membership year is: **July 1-June 30** (Please fill in beginning and end date). If you pay before July 1 your membership year(s) will start early and not end until June 30 of the next year. _____

___ **Individual** ___ \$25 for one year ___ \$45 for two years ___ \$65 for three years

___ **Individual under 30 years old** (\$15/one year)

___ **Virtual** (\$20/one year) (Email newsletter only for members outside Washington, DC area)

___ **Organization** (\$40/one year or \$100/three years)

___ Additional tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

*If organizational member, indicate if you would like a link to your organization to be listed on CWI's website. (Listing subject to CWI approval) Circle One: ___ YES ___ NO

Membership dues and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.